

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Takeshi Yokoi, et al.	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No.:</b>	10/541,369	<b>Art Unit:</b>	3736
<b>Filed:</b>	July 5, 2005	<b>Docket:</b>	18969
<b>For:</b>	MEDICAL DEVICE	<b>Dated:</b>	March 4, 2008
<b>Conf. No.:</b>	8936		

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 23313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2001-104243 published April 17, 2001 together with English language abstract.

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**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website on the date set forth below.

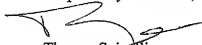
Dated: March 4, 2008

  
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Thomas Spinelli

The reference listed above was cited in an Official Action dated January 4, 2008 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicants are submitting a copy of the above reference, together with a copy of the Official Action. The relevance of the reference is described in the Official Action.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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